this is not true of the whole mass, as is the case with the Mammalia.

2. It has a tendency to exhibit the African model, but shows a greater conformity to the fauna of the Mascarene islands.

3. It bears clear and characteristic traces of an affinity with the Indo-Australian fauna. (Black parrots occur only in New Holland and New Guinea, besides Madagascar.)

4. The number of handsome and bright-coloured species, among the birds of Madagascar, is remarkably small, considering the tropical position of the island.

XLI.—*Description of a new British* Limnæa.

By Joshua Alder, Esq.

[With a Plate.]

The European freshwater mollusca of the pulmoniferous order are so few in number, and, for the most part, so well known and generally diffused, that it is only by a happy chance we meet with a new species to record. It gives me pleasure therefore to be able to add to the British list an undescribed *Limnæa* lately discovered by my friend Mr. Robert Burnett of Newcastle, in Loch Skene, Dumfries-shire.

Limnæa Burnetti. Pl. XI. fig. 1.

Shell ovate, gibbous, obtuse, of a bright yellowish horn-colour, rather glossy and semitransparent, delicately and pretty regularly striated. Spire involuted and placed obliquely: the first and second whorls are slightly sunk in the apex, the third rising a little above them so as to be visible in profile: the body-whorl is large, much-inflated, and occupies nearly the whole of the shell. Aperture large and ovate; the outer lip thin, generally very regularly arched, but sometimes a little constricted in the middle; rounded at the base, and not expanded at the margin; inner lip reflected on the columella and forming a subumbilicus: the columella is only very slightly twisted; and the body-whorl, which is more than usually rounded, projects a little into the aperture above. The spire is not visible from the under side. Length of the largest specimens three-quarters of an inch, breadth rather more than half an inch. The usual size is about one-third less.

Animal of the usual form of the genus, but a little broader than in *L. peregra.* It is dark olive-coloured, spotted with opake-yellow. The cloak is nearly black, with a few paler spots.

From its involuted spire, small specimens of this species might be taken for the *Amphipeplea involuta* of Thompson; but it may be distinguished from that shell by its being stronger and more ventricose, and especially by its having the whorls placed more to one side, giving it somewhat the form of a *Nerita*. When full-grown it is more than three times the size of *A. involuta*.

It differs from all the varieties of *Limnæa peregra* in having the spire involuted and placed rather more obliquely, in the more gibbous and ampullaceous form of the shell, and in being more regularly striated. The animal, too, is much darker, and not so distinctly marbled on the cloak.

A shell found by Capt. Brown in Loch Leven, and described and figured in his 'Illustrations of Recent British Conchology' under the name of *Amphipeplea lacustris*, appears to resemble this species in form, but it is stated to have the spire with two small volutions, the superior one blunt at the apex, from which we must conclude that the spire is exserted: the shell is also stated to be 'extremely thin, pellucid and shining;'—characters which agree much better with *Amphipeplea glutinosa* than with our shell. The *Gulnaria lacustris* of Leach, to which Capt. Brown refers his species, is quite distinct from the one now described.

Mr. Burnett first detected this new *Limnæa* in the stomachs of trout caught in Loch Skene, and on a second visit to that wild locality, so tempting to the angler, he succeeded in obtaining many fine living examples, for the larger portion of which I am indebted to his liberality. Some of the older individuals are a good deal eroded and perforated, showing that they have other enemies besides the trout.

XLII.—*On some new Mesozoic Radiata.* By Frederick M'Coy, M.G.S. & N.H.S.D. &c.

AMORPHOZOA.

Plocoscyphia laxa (M'Coy).

Sp. Char. Hemispherical masses about 2 or 3 inches in diameter, formed of short, wide, irregularly contorted and lobed cups, varying from half to 1 inch in diameter, the walls about 2 lines thick, of a rather coarse irregular spongy texture.

On comparison with the figure of Goldfuss, and with authentic specimens from the Essen chalk of his *Achilleum morchella*, which now forms the type of the genus *Plocoscyphia* of Reuss, I find the present species distinguished by its much larger, more deeply and widely separated cups, their much thicker walls, and very much more open lacunose structure. The contortion of the